

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

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SUBJECT Soviet and East German Army Activities and Installations in the Cottbus Area

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REFERENCES

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

report which gives information on the following: (1) The Hermann Loens Kaserne, (2) Equipment to and from the training ground at Maerzdorf, (3) A radar site at Maerzdorf, (4) Rail shipments to Magdeburg, Guben and Berlin. A sketch showing a front and a side view of the radar reflector referred to in Para. 4 of the report is also included.

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EAST GERMANY/USSRMILITARYSoviet and E.G.A. activity in the COTTBUS area(End Nov - beginning Dec 58)BARRACKS

1. The Hermann Loens Kaserne (BS 3083) is fully occupied by Soviet troops. In this barracks there is a large-scale change of personnel to and from the USSR. Soldiers of older intake years are being replaced by those of newer intakes.

TRAINING ACTIVITIES

2. In the area behind the barracks 2 x T54 and 1 x JS-3 tanks do driving exercises nearly every day. Six rocket launchers are driven daily from the barracks to the training ground at MAERZDORF. The rocket launchers are not all similar, but include a type with 12 launching rails and a type with 4 launching rails. The crew have seats behind the driving cab.
3. On 20 Nov 58 the E.G.A. trained 6 ZSU-57-2's under low attack by 2 x MIG-15 on the airfield at COTTBUS. The highest elevation of the barrels was about 80°.

RADAR

4. A radar is sited on the training ground at MAERZDORF. It has a circular reflector, about 5 metres in diameter. The outer part of the reflector is of mesh and the centre part (about 1 metre diameter) is of solid metal; in the centre rods are fixed. (See sketch at Appendix "A".) When the apparatus is not working it is kept in a horizontal position and is concealed by trees; $\frac{2}{3}$ of it are visible when it is in use. Among the trees stand two buildings housing about 50 Soviet troops. 2 x 3-axled wireless vehicles

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MOVEMENT

5. On 25 Nov 58, 160 trained E.G.A. armoured troops went from SPREMBERG/WEISSWASSER to MAGDEBURG.

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6. On the night of 4 Dec 58, 9 x JS-3 tanks were loaded by Russians at COTTBUS. The tanks were put on the line to BERLIN.
 7. Three Soviet officers in German uniform live in Windmühlensiedlung, Meisenweg 3, namely two majors and one Lt.-Col. These officers used to live with their families in the officers' mess, and then wore Soviet Air Force uniforms. Their families returned to the USSR about four weeks ago.
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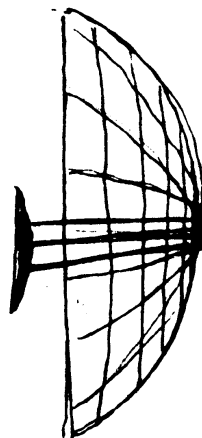
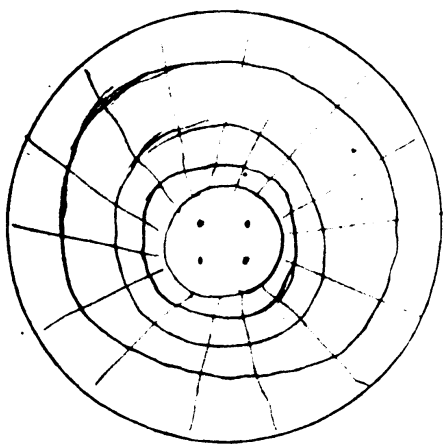
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